

A K2 Search for Planets Transiting Bright M Dwarf Stars

Charles Beichman

JPL

This program continues an ongoing effort (Campaigns 0-3) to survey a large sample of M stars to identify new transiting systems, emphasizing small planets (1-4 REarth) near the Habitable Zones of nearby M stars. By observing ~1800 sources per field in Campaigns 4 and 5 we anticipate being able to find ~45 planets orbiting stars with spectral types from M0-M6. An emphasis is placed on rapid follow-up to ensure timely validation and characterization to support early observations with JWST.